

To the Federal Communications Commission:

I am one of the investors in a small paging company in Reno, Nevada.

We have invested substantial sums over the 25 years we have been in operation there. Since 1996 we have not had any cooperation or compliance from SBC/Nevada Bell in providing the lines necessary to operate and expand our business. In fact, SBC/Nevada Bell has threatened to disconnect all service if their outlandish fees were not paid. SBC/Nevada Bell was not even authorized to charge those fees.

Several million dollars have been invested in the Nevada and Northern California operations, and millions more in lost business opportunities and lost revenue have been the result of SBC/Nevada Bell's refusal to allow competition to grow. To reward this company by granting their long distance application would be an absolute travesty.

I urge you to deny this application until full and unhindered competition is allowed to prosper in Nevada.

W.H. Edwards  
Orinda, California